

Applicant: Ebersole et al.
For: Internetworked Augmented Reality System and Method

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system is presented for an “internetworked augmented reality (AR) system” which consists of one or more Local Stations (which may be AR or Non-AR, at least one of which must be AR) and one or more Remote Stations (RS) (which may be AR or Non-AR) networked together. RSs can provide resources not available at a Local AR Station (LARS): databases, high performance computing (HPC), and methods by which a human can interact with the person(s) at the LARS(s). Preferred embodiments are presented: Training: a trainee is located at a LARS, while the instructor, located at a RS, monitors and controls training. Maintenance: the operator performs tasks at the LARS, while information and assistance is located at the RS. HPC: the LARS user visualizes results of computations performed remotely. Online shopping: shoppers evaluate virtual representations of real products, in the real setting in which they will be used. Design: experts in such fields as interior or exterior decorating, lighting, architecture, or engineering, can use the invention to collaborate with remote colleagues and utilize remote databases or a HPC. Navigation: mariners utilize a remote database that contains the latest information on warnings of hazards or preferred paths to follow. Situational Awareness: users benefit from up-to-date information received from remote computers or humans over a network. Testing: controllers at remote computers control testing procedures. Entertainment: multiple AR game players at different locations can play against each other over a network. Telepresence: viewers remotely experience AR.